

Message Text

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12

ACTION OPIC-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 /034 W

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R 311506Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4283

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 4790

FOR OPIC PRESIDENT MAYS FROM DAVID GREGG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, ZA

SUBJECT: GREGG PROPOSED VISIT TO ZAMBIA RE TAW

1. GREGG HAS PROPOSED TO VISIT LUSAKA TO EVALUATE THE
RELATIVE CLAIMS OF TAW AND THE GRZ, TO TRY TO PERSUADE
DIRECT SETTLEMENT INSTEAD OF LENGTHY INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION
AND TO OBTAIN ANSWERS TO SEVERAL UNANSWERED QUESTIONS.

2. IT NOW APPEARS THAT WOODS HAS HAD A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
OF GRZ TO TRY TO NEGOTIATE DIRECT SETTLEMENT AND THAT HE MAY
HAVE FURTHER MEETINGS.

3. GREGG HAS SUGGESTED MEETING WITH WOODS, BEFORE PROCEEDING
TO LUSAKA, IN NAIROBI ON MONDAY OR TUESDAY, JUNE 3 OF 4
TO DISCUSS VISIT AND UNANSWERED QUESTIONS. WOODS WAS SUPPOSED
TO COME TO ABIDJAN ON TUESDAY MAY 28, BUT DID NOT ARRIVE.

4. GREGG IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE MENTIONED REINSTATEMENT
OF THE TAW ZAMBIAN LEASE AS IMPRACTICABLE.

5. GREGG IS DISTURBED BY THE MENTION THAT TWO SEIWO
WAIVER LETTERS WERE MISSING FROM THE GRZ FILES; PARTICULARLY
SINCE TAW AT FIRST MENTIONED THAT IT WOULD ONLY USE THE
FIRST, OR SEPTEMBER LETTER IN THE ARBITRATION. OPIC LOAN
TO TAW WAS BASED ON THE SECOND WAIVER LETTER.

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6. THE EARLIER CABLE FROM AMBASSADOR WILKOWSKI IN LUSAKA MENTIONED THAT WOODS IS OPPOSED TO GREGG'S VISIT AT THIS TIME BECAUSE OF STAGE OF NEGOTIATION AND HAVING CONVINCED GRZ THAT TAW IS NOT A USG AID MECHANISM. HOWEVER THE LAST THREE PARAGRAPHS OF THAT CABLE MENTION THERE MAY BE SOME BENEFIT FROM THE VISIT.

7. GREGG HAS ALSO HAD A CONVERSATION WITH SAVAGE REGARDING VISIT TO LUSAKA. SAVAGE IS AGAINST IT AT THIS TIME. GREGG WILL PROBABLY SEE HIM IN NAIROBI ON SATURDAY JUNE 1.

8. OPIC HAS ADVISED AGAINST THE TRIP AFTER THE CABLE FROM LUSAKA.

9. GREGG PROPOSES NOT PROCEED TO LUSAKA UNLESS WOODS AGREES OR MAYS INSISTS BY WIRE FOR TUESDAY MORNING RECEIPT IN NAIROBI, BECAUSE GREGG IS AFRAID WOODS MAY BLAME A SLOW DOWN FAILURE IN NEGOTIATION ON THE VISIT.

10. GREGG VISITED LOME ON WEDNESDAY. TAW'S FACILITIES THERE ARE LOVELY, HOWEVER NO MANAGEMENT, BUSINESS AND LOCAL SUPPORTER AND INVESTOR IN TRANSPORT POOL TOGO. MR. BAKA VERY DISILLUSTIONED BY TAW. MR. BAKA FELT TAW WAS NOT SURE WHETHER IT WANTED TO BE A BANK OR FINANCE COMPANY, OR JUST SELL GM TRUCKS. MR. BAKA BUILT A FINE OFFICE THERE FOR TAW LEASING AND IT IS UNOCCUPIED EVEN THOUGH TAW PAID TWO YEARS ADVANCED LEASE OF ABOUT \$10,000. REINHARDT

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